Impure Medicines

@2453-E. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that recently, there have been incidents that patients died due to the supply of impure medicines to hospitals in different parts of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the Sabha.

Spurious and Inferior drugs

@@2453-F. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any assessment of circulation of spurious and inferior drugs in the country *vis-a-vis* genuine drugs;

(b) whether any action has been initiated against those selling spurious and inferior drugs, if so, details thereof;

(c) what are the results achieved from such measures; and

(d) if no action has been taken the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) An analysis of a number of samples of drugs by the Drug Testing Laboratories revealed that between 15 and 18 per cent of the samples tested were found to be sub-standard.

(b) to (d) Under the provision of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules made thereunder, control over the manufacture and sale of drugs is exercised by the State Drug Control Authorities. Action to detect the production and distribution of spurious and inferior drugs has, therefore, mainly to be taken by them. If a case of manufacture of sale of spurious drugs is detected the State Drug Authorities take action to seize the spurious drugs and launch prosecution against the involved persons.

Death due to spurious Glycerol

†2453-G. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many people died in the month of January, 1986 due to supply of impure Glycerol in J J. Hospital of Bombay;

(b) what is the method of quality testing of different types of medicines;

(c) whether there is any possibility of holding the inquiry in the matter by CBI; and

(d) who are the people involved in the deal of such medicines and what action is being taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d). The Government of Maharashtra has appointed a Commission of Enquiry headed by Justice B. Lentin Juore of High Court. The matter is therefore *sub-judice*.

Adulteration of Edible Oils and Ghee

‡2453-H. SHRI D. HEERACHAND: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is widespread adulteration of edible oils, vanaspati and pure ghee particularly through animal fats;

@Previously Unstarred Question 2144 transferred from the 17th March, 1986.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 2151 transferred from the 17th March, 1986.

†Previously Unstarred Question 2166 transferred from the 17th March, 1986.

‡Previously Unstarred Question 2250, transferred from 18th March, 1986.

(b) whether Government are also aware that visible detection and scientific identification of adulterants is difficult and time consuming; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to check adulteration of edible oils, vanaspati and pure ghee during the last one year in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) According to Annual Report on working of P.F.A. Act in the country for the year 1984, based on the figures collected from State Governments, the percentage of adulteration in edible oils, vanaspati and pure ghee are as follows:—

(1) Edible oils and vanaspati .. 17.3 per cent

(2) Butter, ghee and milk products 16.35 per cent

(b) Scientific identification of adulterant can be done only in a chemical laboratory.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to keep a vigil on quality of food stuff including edible oils and fats.

12 NOON

Message from the President

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the following Message dated the 13th March 1986 has been received from the President:

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the Rajya Sabha for the Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 20th February, 1986."

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Report and Accounts (1984-85) of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (1984-85) of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor and related papers.

III. Report and Accounts (1984-85) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and related papers.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Second Annual Report and Accounts of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Corporation.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (i) above.

[Placed in Library. See LT—2281/86 for (1) and (2)]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

II (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1984-85, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Libary. *See* No. LT—2340/86 for (a) to (c)].

III (a) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85, under section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956.